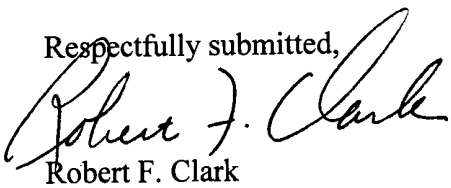
REMARKS

The rejection of claims 20-23 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,034,470 in view of Inbar et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,011,528) is respectfully traversed. The instant application is a divisional of the Application Serial No. 09,180,861, filed 11/17/98, now U.S. Patent 6,034,470 ("parent application"). New claim 23 added in the Applicants' preliminary amendment filed with the instant application on 1/14/2000 is substantially similar to claim 19 filed in the parent application rewritten independent form (as amended by the preliminary amendment filed in the parent application). Claims 20-22 in the instant application are also substantially similar to Claims 20-22 of the parent application (as amended by the preliminary amendment filed in the parent application). Claims 19-22 in the parent application were subject to a restriction requirement mailed to the Applicants on 9/29/99 (a copy of which is attached). Since the restriction requirement necessitated the filing of this divisional application for the invention of Claims 19-22, the Applicants respectfully assert that under 35 USC §121 the patent which issued from the parent application may not be used as a reference against Claims 20-23 of the divisional application. Thus, the obviousness-type rejection in view of U.S. 6,034,470 is not proper.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is believed that the Examiner's rejection has been overcome and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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